## IAPO REC'OPCTIPTO 20 MAR 2006

Docket No.: 0152-0727PUS1 (PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Yuzuru ISHIBASHI

Application No.: NEW

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: March 20, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For:

EXTERNAL PRESSURE TYPE HOLLOW

FIBER MEMBRANE MODULE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed. Also, JP Patent No. 9-220446 and JP Patent No. 10-305218 are discussed on pages 5 and 6 of the present Specification.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

GMM/smt

10/572588 IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 MAR 2006

Application No.: NEW

Docket No.: 0152-0727PUS1

Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a

counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: March 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted.

Gerald M. Murphy, Jr.

Registration No.: 28,977

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant

## 10/572538 IAP9 Rec'd PCT/PTO 20 MAR 2006

PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known		
				Application Number	NEW	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Filing Date	March 20, 2006	
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)			APPLICANT	First Named Inventor	Yuzuru ISHIBASHI	
				Art Unit	N/A	
			necessary)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0152-0727PUS1	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant			
Initials*	No.1	Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	WW-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	l T⁵		
	BA	JP-4-58959-A	02-25-1992			ABS		
	BB	JP-8-47624-A	02-20-1996			ABS		
	BC	JP-2000-37616-A	02-08-2000			ABS		
	BD	JP-2000-185220-A	07-04-2000			ABS		
	BE	JP-9-220446-A	08-26-1997			ABS		
	BF	JP-10-305218-A	11-17-1998	•		ABS		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>		

<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner Date Signature Considered			
Signature Considered	Examiner	Date	
	Signature	Considered	

GMM/smt Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

<sup>&#</sup>x27;Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.